

REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2008  
PLAZA CONFERENCE ROOM AT CITY HALL – 500 CASTRO STREET  
6:30 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Siegel.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Committee Members:** Margaret Abe-Koga, Ronit Bryant and Chair Jac Siegel.

**City Staff Present:** Cathy Lazarus, Public Works Director; Joan Jenkins, Transportation and Policy Manager; and Steve Attinger, Environmental Sustainability Manager.

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC—None.**

**4. MINUTES APPROVAL**

Minutes of the November 12, 2008 meeting were approved 3-0.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN**

Staff presented the analysis of the 19 initial action items selected by the Council Environmental Sustainability Committee (CESC) for consideration for forwarding to Council as the Action Plan, including:

- Completing emissions inventories
- Setting emissions reduction targets
- Adopting a construction and demolition ordinance
- Adopting a zero waste policy
- Adopting a green purchasing policy
- Adopting a water conservation ordinance
- Adopting a green building policy
- Adopting LEED Silver for public buildings
- Banning single-use carry-out bags
- Banning polystyrene
- Investigating AB 811 and AB 2466 for possible action

- Redesigning the utility bills
- Implementing the bicycle boulevards
- Providing automated bicycle rentals
- Adopting a pedestrian master plan
- Increasing tree coverage
- Forming a green citizens group/sponsor tabling at public events
- Creating an environmental focus section at the Library
- Increasing transit usage

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Julie Lovins commented on several items included in the Action Plan, including the green citizens group, the display at the Library and increasing transit usage.

Bruce Karney stated greenhouse gases need to be reduced by 2.5 percent per year for the next four years. Driving and buildings are the two major sources of energy consumption. It is better to consider actions that have a greater impact even though they may be more expensive to launch.

Cliff Chambers urged stronger language for items that the Committee wants to see included in the General Plan process.

Bruce England commented on quickly forming the green citizens group and adopting and implementing a Pedestrian Master Plan, stating the Transportation Task Force members can provide the work they did on a first draft of a pedestrian master plan.

Shirley Ingalls said she likes the automated bike rental idea and wondered if banning polystyrene take-out food containers is necessary in a city with a composting program?

### PUBLIC INPUT CLOSED

The Committee reviewed each item on the proposed list, asked staff to refine the list and then decided to move forward to Council in a Study Session. However, the Committee decided to meet one more time to review the refined Action Plan list of items.

## **5.2 POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY EVALUATION TEMPLATE**

City staff reported that at Committee direction, they tested the proposed evaluation template by analyzing one of the Task Force recommendations, "Install recycling containers in all public venues and businesses where trash cans are

used." The Solid Waste Program Manager prepared the template as shown in the report and included the results. She concluded the evaluation template is very labor-intensive. Staff suggested the template be used on selected items requiring more in-depth analysis and for the other items, using a condensed version of the template.

The Task Force members commented that the Plan should concentrate on items with clear payback, such as efficient, renewable energy and that the tree coverage item cost is too high because City staff plants the trees.

#### **6. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND REPORTS**

A Committee member asked what the next step is for the single-use bag ordinance, and staff replied that there may be a Study Session.

The next meeting was set for January 2009.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

JJ/8/PWK  
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